

But that is taking a huge risk with my constituents' economic futures. Look at it this way: If your foolish neighbor accidentally sets his apartment on fire, you could just let it burn and say that it serves him right. But the truth is, you live in the same apartment building: unless you call the fire department and use taxpayer funds to have it put out, in a short time your apartment is going to be destroyed by that same fire.

This bill is not perfect, but improvements have been made and protections and accountability have been added to it over the past two weeks. Now CEO's will be prohibited from collecting "golden parachute" payments or huge bonuses based on their company's stock price if their institutions want to participate. Also, since the federal government will become the owner of many troubled mortgages, the bill directs the Treasury Department to try to help some of those homeowners stay in their homes by easing the terms of the loan in ways that might prevent foreclosure and eviction. And if this works as it should, taxpayer outlays should be recouped—and perhaps even a profit turned—as the federal government sells the mortgages back into the market over time.

Madam Speaker, I had family who lived through the Great Depression, and I know that when the wider economy tailspins into a depression, it is poor and working families who are hit the hardest. I am not willing to stand by and do nothing while this crash spreads to my constituents.

HONORING SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE CHIEF JOHN SCHERREI

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge Mr. John Scherrei, Fire Chief of Santa Barbara County, upon reaching his retirement after 38 years of fighting fires.

Fire Chief Scherrei was appointed as the Santa Barbara County Fire Department Chief in 1999. He previously had a 28-year career with the City of Los Angeles Fire Department where he held all ranks from firefighter to Assistant Chief and was often the highest ranking fire official on duty for the Los Angeles area.

During Fire Chief Scherrei's time with Santa Barbara County, the Fire Department has added paramedics on its engine companies; created and integrated two brush clearing crews to the department; acquired the County's first high-rise tower ladder truck to its firefighting equipment inventory and has successfully deployed two firefighting and rescue helicopters.

Fire Chief Scherrei also oversaw the merger of the Solvang and Orcutt fire departments into the County Fire Department and guided the Fire Department through both recent wild land forest fires: the 2007 Zaca Fire—at about 240,000 acres the largest fire in the County's known history—and the 9,400-acre Gap Fire that occurred earlier this year. In both major fires, no lives were lost and no homes were destroyed. Most recently, Fire Chief Scherrei helped supervise efforts related to the 2,000-acre Tea fire, which damaged or destroyed 219 residences.

Over the last decade, Fire Chief Scherrei has worked with concerned citizens to form the Firefighter Alliance, which helps the department acquire urgent, unbudgeted tools and equipment and he has helped establish a firefighter Benevolent Association which is a charity to assist the fire family with personal loss, and family tragedy situations.

Fire Chief Scherrei was also instrumental in creating the County's first memorial event at the historic Courthouse Gardens regarding the September 11th terrorist attacks and also the 75th anniversary event commemorating the founding of the County Fire Department.

He has a master's degree in public administration from Cal Lutheran University and a bachelor's degree in sociology from California State University, Northridge. Fire Chief Scherrei also proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corps and is a Vietnam Veteran.

Madam Speaker, Chief Scherrei will retire from the County of Santa Barbara on January 23, 2009. To his wife, Piper; his four children; his 11 grandchildren; and to everyone whose lives have been enriched by him, Chief Scherrei is a man of courage, vigor, and guidance.

Throughout his tenure as Fire Chief, Mr. Scherrei has advanced the state of fire and all-hazard emergency response in the County. As a result, our residents, businesses and visitors have benefited from his leadership and duty to serve. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. John Scherrei for his 38 years as Fire Chief and honor his admirable service to the community and our country.

HONORING JUDGE JOEL B. ROSEN, RECIPIENT OF THE 2008 JUDGE F. GERRY AWARD

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Honorable Joel B. Rosen, former United States Magistrate Judge of the New Jersey District, on receiving the 2008 Judge John F. Gerry Award. I consider Joel a close friend and commend him on being honored for his commitment to his profession and his work on behalf of the community.

This prestigious award is named in honor of Judge John F. Gerry who was appointed to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey by President Gerald Ford in 1974. Judge Gerry became the District Court's Chief Judge in 1987 and served in this position until October 1994. The Camden County Bar Foundation established the John F. Gerry Memorial Scholarship in 2002 as a tribute to the humanitarianism and integrity of this respected public servant.

Judge Rosen's auspicious career began when he served as an Assistant United States Attorney, after graduating with honors from Rutgers School of Law in Camden. As the attorney-in-charge of the United States Attorney's office in Camden, he received several commendations from the Department of Justice for prosecuting organized crime and political corruption. Judge Rosen also served as the Chief of the Special Prosecutions Section

as a Deputy Attorney General in the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice. In 1987, Judge Rosen was sworn in as a United States Magistrate Judge for the District of New Jersey where he served until 2006.

Judge Rosen has also played a noteworthy role in educating the next generation of outstanding legal minds. He has been an adjunct faculty member of Rutgers School of Law, Camden, where he has lectured on class actions and complex litigation. Judge Rosen has also taught constitutional principles at Rutgers University, Camden and has lectured at numerous continuing legal education programs. He is a member of the Disciplinary Oversight Committee and the Committee on Minority Concerns of the New Jersey Supreme Court. Judge Rosen is also a member of the Board of the Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey.

Madam Speaker, over his distinguished career Judge Rosen has been the recipient of many distinguished service awards. In 1999, The Black Law Students Association presented the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Champions for Social Justice and Equality Award to Judge Rosen. Then, in 2004, Judge Rosen was presented with the Honorable Joseph M. Nardi, Jr. Distinguished Service Award, conferred by Rutgers School of Law, Camden.

Madam Speaker, I have known Judge Rosen for over a decade and have been repeatedly impressed by his intelligence and compassion. He is an excellent role-model for young Americans considering a career in the legal profession. I commend Judge Rosen for his many years of service and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JACK SCOTT

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Honorable Jack Scott, State Senator from California's 21st District.

Jack Scott was born and raised in Sweetwater, Texas. An advocate of higher education, he received a bachelor's degree from Abilene Christian College, a master of divinity from Yale University, and a Ph.D. in American history from Claremont Graduate University.

Senator Scott began his career as a professor and administrator at Pepperdine University in 1962. He then moved on to Orange Coast College, and in 1978, he became President of Cypress College. In 1987, he took over the position as President of Pasadena City College. As President, he was responsible for the development of its library, Community Education Center, Child Development Center, physical education complex, and Sculpture Garden. Despite declines in state funding, the college had more than \$6 million in reserve funds when Scott retired from the presidency in 1995.

In 1996, Jack was elected to the California State Assembly where he served until 2000, when he was elected to the State Senate. During his eight-year tenure in the State Senate, he chaired the Senate Committee on Education and the Joint Committee on the Arts. Throughout his term, he fought to increase the

amount and quality of California teachers, improve the transfer process for community college students, and develop a new funding system for California community colleges.

Senator Scott's legislative efforts have earned him recognition as Legislator of the Year from the California Federation of Teachers, Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, Association of California Community College Administrators, Association of California School Boards, California State University, and the Child Development Policy Institute. He has an honorary doctorate from Pepperdine University and has been named the Alumnus of the Year at both Claremont Graduate University and Abilene Christian University. On October 28, he received Pasadena City College Foundation's Building the Spirit of a Vibrant Community Award.

Senator Scott's extensive community involvement includes the Coalition for a Non-Violent City, Pacific Oaks College's Board of Trustees, the Board of Regents at Pepperdine University and the Association of California Community College Administrators. Jack and his wife, Lacrete, have 10 grandchildren and four surviving children, Sharon Mitchell, Shelia Head, Amy Schones, and Greg Scott; their fifth child, Adam, died in 1993.

In 2009, Senator Scott will begin his position as Chancellor of California's community colleges.

It is my great pleasure to recognize the extraordinary achievements of Senator Jack Scott and I ask all Members of Congress to join me in thanking him for his service.

HONORING RYAN PHILLIP LAWTER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan Phillip Lawter of Holt, Missouri. Ryan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1494, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Ryan has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryan Phillip Lawter for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARGARET WILLIAMS

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Margaret Williams, The Missouri Teacher of the Year 2008–2009 Recipient. The Missouri Teacher of the Year is a pres-

tigious honors program that focuses public attention on excellence in teaching. Williams, a 37 year educator has earned the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues alike. She inspires students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn. For the aforementioned reasons, I enthusiastically honor Mrs. Williams today before Congress.

Mrs. Williams is a graduate of Beaumont High School in St. Louis, Missouri. She was inspired by her psychology teacher Mr. Brown to pursue a career in education. Mrs. Williams went on to graduate from the University of Missouri—St. Louis.

Mrs. Williams is the social studies department chair for University City High School in University City, Missouri where she has been teaching for the last 18 years. Williams who also teaches history, government, and an African-American experience course was one of six finalists to compete in this year's competition.

The Missouri Teacher of the Year program is conducted annually by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, in conjunction with the National Teacher of the Year program. Major funding for Missouri's program is provided by The Boeing Company, St. Louis, Missouri.

Before joining University City, Williams began her illustrious career in education as principal and administrator from 1986 to 1990 at West Side Christian Academy in St. Louis. After which she taught at the Visual and Performing Arts High School and Beaumont from 1971 to 1986.

Williams is the first in the University City School District to be named Missouri Teacher of the year and was honored with a special drum line presentation, and video made by the district as part of her nomination package.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Williams has my absolute highest recommendation to be honored today. Her contributions to education and unyielding commitment to the youth of Missouri is unmatched. As a pioneer in the University City Schools and a role model to all educators that is worthy of recognition. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Margaret Williams for being a top Missouri educator and being named the Missouri Teacher of the Year 2008–2009.

THE FAIRNESS DOCTRINE IS UNFAIR

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, it seems that some in Congress are trying to call back the speech police and reinstate the Fairness Doctrine again. Although the Fairness Doctrine was abolished over 20 years ago, some of our colleagues just can't let it go.

This time they want to police and control the radio airwaves. I'm not talking about the former Soviet Union that controlled what Russians listened to on the radio, I'm talking about the American speech police.

The so-called "Broadcast Fairness Doctrine" is an attempt by the Feds to force private radio stations to be fair and balanced by forcing broadcasters to air opposing views of public importance. Sounds good, but who's going

to determine what fair is, the Federal fair police?

Are we going to let a bunch of Potomac River bureaucrats determine if a radio station in Tomball, Texas is being fair when it discusses politics? Sounds like government control of speech to me.

It is actually totalitarian state control of speech. And what does "fair" mean? Fair means different things to different folks. In some places in the country like Texas, fair is where you take your chickens to. That's why the word "fair" is not in the Constitution. The Constitution protects free speech, not fair speech. It says "Congress (that's us, folks) shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech." And the Constitution applies to the thieves of free speech and the government's speech police whether they like it or not.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the important research it is doing. There are few investments the Federal government makes that regularly pay such important dividends to the American taxpayer. The National Institutes of Health, the lead government agency tasked with preventing and curing diseases and disorders, is one such investment. While NIH conducts some biomedical research at its Bethesda, Maryland campus, between 80 to 90 percent of its budget funds research that takes place at universities, research centers and hospitals throughout the United States. At a time when stimulating the economy is on everyone's mind, we should remember that the NIH dollars that flow into our communities provide direct economic benefits in the form of increased employment and growth opportunities for research institutions and local businesses at the same time that they are funding research to save lives and improve the quality of life of all Americans. One example of that is NIH-supported research to identify a gene variant involved in isolated cleft lip.

About one in every 600 babies in the United States is born with isolated cleft lip and/or palate (roof of the mouth). While there are several surgeries to correct the condition, families suffer under the emotional and economic strain, and children often require additional treatment, including complex dental care and speech therapy. Because isolated clefts occur during fetal development from disruptions in the dynamic, but still poorly understood, interplay of genes, diet, and environment, ongoing research is seeking ways to prevent or reverse the problem before a baby is born.

One course of action has been to isolate genes involved in the developmental process. Six years ago, a gene known as IRF-6 was discovered. Within the gene's structure is a sequence variant known as a single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP). Scientists recently discovered that the frequency of this SNP was significantly higher in babies born with cleft lip only.